15.9.1995. During a meeting with National Seeds Corporation, the concerned seed growers, however, agreed to submit a revised claim.

(d) and (e) Further action by National Seeds Corporation will be taken on receipt of the revised claim and fulfilment of other conditions by the concerned seed growers.

Baldeo Mahajan Committee Report on Recruitment Rules in K.V.S.

4087. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Baldeo Mahajan Committee had suggested some significant changes in recruitment rules for Education Officers in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) if so, what are the details and basis thereof;

(c) whether these changes have since been accepted and given effect to by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Baldev Mahajan Committee in its report inter-alia has suggested that:—

(i) One third posts of Education Officers in KVS should be filled up by direct recruitment of young persons with consistently good academic record and with atleast 55% marks at the post graduate level. The selected persons may initially be placed in the pay scale of Rs. 2200-4000 for a period of five years and designated as Assistant Education Officer and thereafter, subject to their suitability, based on assessment of their work, may be placed in the pay scale of the post of Education Officer.

(ii) The remaining 2/3rd vacancies of Education Officers, should be filled by suitable Principals, who have worked at least for five years as Principal.

(iii) The post of Education Officer and Principal should be made interchangeable so that willing and devoted persons could be posted as Education Officers without a permanent liability on their post to serve in that position.

(c) and (d) No decision regarding acceptance or otherwise of these recommendations has yet been taken by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

Payment of Arrears to Loco Inspectors of *Jhansi Division*

4088. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the seniority of some Loco Inspectors of Jhansi Division of Central Railway Posted in Delhi, who retired in 1994, has been fixed w.e.f. 1992 as per their representation before retirement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether their pay and pension have been revised and arrears given to them;

(d) if so, when and the amount thereof;

(e) if answer to part (c) be in the negative, the reasons for the delay; and

(f) by when the arrears will be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) There was only one Sr. Loco Inspector, Shri B.R. Kapoor belonging to Central Railway who retired on 31.10.94 while posted at New Delhi. Shri Kapoor has been assigned seniority as admissible under the rules.

(c) and (d) Consequent upon promotion of Shri Kapoor to grade Rs. 2375-3500 his pension has been revised to

Rs. 1954/- per month vide revised Pension Payment Order dated 29.3.95 and arrears paid vide COT. No. 071140 dated 24.2.95 as under:—

DCRG	—	Rs. 3713.00
Commuted value of Pension	—	Rs. 2887.00
Cash equivalent of Leave Salary	—	Rs. 2568.00

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Lack of Fruit Processing Facilities in Gujarat

4089. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to lack of processing facilities in Gujarat prices fall considerably during peak harvesting season thereby making fruit cultivation unviable compelling the farmers to uproot their fruit plants; and

(b) if so, what are the fruits which face such a situation and what measures Government propose to take to protect the fruit plants?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) There is no report from the State Government about uprooting of fruit plants. However, the Government through National Horticulture Board is extending financial support for strengthening market infrastructure facilities such as cold storage, pre-cooling, grading/packing centres, transport facilities and processing units for fruits and vegetables to help the growers.

Scheme for Adolescent Girls

4090. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state.

(a) the names of the States where the Centrally-sponsored Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) is being introduced;

(b) the number of early Childhood Education Centres opened in those States; and

(c) how far the main objectives of this Centrally Sponsored scheme are being achieved by those Centres?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) The adolescent Girls Scheme is being implemented in selected 507 Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Blocks in all the States/UTs as an integral part of the Centrally Sponsored Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme.

(b) There are 4365 Early Childhood Education (ECE) Centres in operation in the nine educationally backward States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(c) The Scheme represents a special intervention, inistitutionalised through the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) infrastructure and attempts to meet the health, nutrition, recreation, awareness generation and skill improvement needs of the adolescent girls in the age group of 11—18 years in rural areas. The Scheme has been well received. Over 3.51 lakh adolescent girls nave already received vital services till date under the Adolescent Girls Scheme.

Gauge Conversion in Maharashtra

4091. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have identified metre and narrow gauge lines for conversion into broad gauge in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of progress made under unigauge conversion scheme in Maharashtra so far and the programmes